

2014 Current Fiscal Year Report: Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Energy

2. Fiscal Year

2014

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Ultra-Deepwater Advisory Committee

3b. GSA Committee No.

29135

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

07/27/2012

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

09/30/2014

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

Yes

8b. Specific Termination Authority

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013

8c. Actual Term Date

12/26/2013

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Terminate

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Yes

10b. Legislation Pending?

Enacted

11. Establishment Authority

Authorized by Law

12. Specific Establishment Authority

Section 999D(a) of the Energy Policy Act

13. Effective Date

05/10/2006

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

1

16b. Report Date

12/16/2013

Report Title

Ultra-Deep Water Advisory Committee Findings and Recommendations 2014

Number of Committee Reports Listed: 1

17a. Open 2 17b. Closed 0 17c. Partially Closed 0 Other Activities 0 17d. Total 2

Meetings and Dates

Purpose

To present a report from the Program Subcommittee, and the Sunset Subcommittee on the Comments and Recommendations to the 2014 Annual Plan, To allow full committee discussion on the 2014 Annual Plan, and to establish an Editing Subcommittee for the Comments and Recommendations to the 2014 Annual Plan.

Start

End

12/09/2013 - 12/09/2013

To discuss and approve the final committee report of comments and recommendations to the 2014 Annual Plan

12/16/2013 - 12/16/2013

Number of Committee Meetings Listed: 2

Current FY Next FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members

\$0.00 \$0.00

18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$83,200.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$5,220.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$88,420.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.50	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

(A) Provides advice to the Secretary on the development and implementation of programs under Subtitle J of the Energy Policy Act, Public Law No. 109-58, related to ultra-deepwater natural gas and other petroleum resources; and (B) provide to the Secretary written comments regarding the draft annual plan that is required by Section 999B(e) of the Energy Policy Act. The duties of this Committee are solely advisory in nature. On December 19, 2008, the committee voted to establish two standing subcommittees, the Ultra-Deepwater Research and Development Portfolio Subcommittee, and the Ultra-Deepwater Research and Development Process Subcommittee. The purpose of these two subcommittees is to examine more closely and advise the committee on issues related to the depth and breadth of the portfolio of projects that comprise the Ultra-Deepwater Program, and to examine the processes used to award projects after they have been selected.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

Membership requirements are stated in Sec. 999D(a)(2: individuals with extensive research experience or operational knowledge of offshore natural gas and other petroleum exploration and production; individuals broadly representative of the affected interests in ultra-deepwater natural gas and other petroleum production, including interest in environmental protection and safe operations.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Committee held 2 meetings to develop findings and recommendations for the 2014 Annual Plan.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

According to the EPLA on August 8, 2005, the Secretary of Energy is to create this advisory committee to administer research, development, demonstration, and commercial

activities related to ultra-deepwater and unconventional onshore natural gas and other petroleum resources.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Not applicable

21. Remarks

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 repealed Subtitle J of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which established this committee. Thus, it was terminated.

Designated Federal Officer

Elena Melchert Division Director for Safety and Environmental Sustainability

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Cooper, George	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	Professor, University of California, Berkeley	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Dokken, Quenton	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	Gulf of Mexico Foundation	Representative Member
Downs, Hartley	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	Technology Fellow, Baker Hughes	Representative Member
Foster, Douglas	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	Senior Scientist, ConocoPhillips	Representative Member
Litton, James	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	President and CEO, Litton Consulting Group, Inc	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Pye, D.	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	Consultant	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wilson, Mary Jane	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	WZI, Inc.	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Wood, Lesli	03/28/2013	07/27/2014	Senior Research Scientist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 8

Narrative Description

The Committee is required under Subtitle J Section 999 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The Committee supports Goal 1.1 Energy Diversity of the DOE Strategic Plan by advising the Secretary on the development and implementation of programs under the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>

Increased customer satisfaction
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
Other

☐
☐
☐

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None
Unable to Determine
Under \$100,000
\$100,000 - \$500,000
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
Over \$10,000,000
Cost Savings Other

☒
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Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

160

Number of Recommendations Comments

Number of recommendations by year: 2007: 34; 2008: 35; 2009: 27; 2010: 12, 2011: 18; 2012: 13; 2013: 11; 2014: 10

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Over 80% were already or have been incorporated into the 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 Annual Plans, the remainder will be addressed at a later date. No Annual Plan will be submitted for 2014, due to the repeal of Subtitle J of EPACT 2005. However, recommendations will be implemented if applicable in the future.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

All recommendations were accepted for implementation either now or in the near future.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The feedback the Department provides is not by traditional means. Each year the Committee provides comments and recommendations on a draft version of the annual plan. The feedback they receive is incorporated in the final version of that annual plan where their comments and recommendations are evident.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

These questions are not applicable because the statute that established this committee specifically prohibits the members from making recommendations regarding funding of

specific projects.

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Committee website, agency website, field website, and FOIA website all include the final committee recommendations and report. Also, a committee email box is monitored for general inquiries from the public.